

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 09047 311833Z

61

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EA-11 NEA-10 IO-13 EB-11 COME-00 STR-08

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 551

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMZMBASSY COPENHAGEN 875

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 9047

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EEC AF KN KS VN VS UN

SUBJECT: MEETING OF EC FAR EAST EXPERTS

1. SUMMARY: FONOFF OFFICIAL PRESENT AT AUGUST 27 MEETING IN COPENHAGEN OF EC FAR EAST EXPERTS GROUP HAS GIVEN US RUNDOWN ON PROCEEDINGS. MAIN SUBJECTS DISCUSSED WERE KOREA, VIETNAM AND AFGHANISTAN. NEXT MEETIN SCHEDULED FOR MIN-OCOTOBER. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING ITALIAN REP (LENZI) AT AUGUST 27 MEETING, SUBJECT OF TWO KOREAS RECEIVED EXTENSIVE ATTENTION LARGELY SPARKED BY DANES IN WAKE OF DANISH RECOGNITION OF DPRK. OTHER EC EXPERTS NOTED THAT THEIR GOVERNMENTS WERE GOING SLOW ON QUESTION OF NORTH KOREAN RECOGNITION BUT BOTH FRANCE AND ITALY ACKNOWLEDGED EXISITENCE OF COMMERCIAL CONTACTS. IN CASE OF ITALY, DPRK COMMERCIAL DELEGATION DUE IN ROME AROUND MIDDLE OF SEPTEMBER FOLLOWING EARLIER VISIT OF ITWLIAN FOREIGN COMMERCE OFFICIALS TO PYONGYANG. FRG REP ANNOUNCED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 09047 311833Z

THAT DPRK COMMERCIAL FEELERS PUT OUT IN EAST EUROPEAN CAPITWLS HAD

BEEN REBUFFED WITH REJOINER THAT BONN WILL CONSIDER QUESTION OF COMMERCIAL TIES ONLY AFTER OBTAINING GUARANTEES THAT EC COUNTRIES WILL RECOGNIZE SOUTH KOREA.

3. CONCERNING POSITIONS WHICH EC COUNTRIES SHOULD ADOPT VIS A VIS KOREAN ITEM AT UNGA, GENERAL CONSENSUS OF EXPERTS WAS IN FAVOR OF WAIT AND SEE ATTITUDE. WHILE THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT UNCURK SHOULD BE DISSOLVED, EXPERTS NOTED THAT QUESTIONS OF CONCURRENT ENTRY OF TWO KOREAS INTO UN AND FUTURE STATUS OF UNC WOULD DEPEND NOT ONLY ON ATTITUDES OF COUNTRIES DIRECTLY INVOLVED BUT OTHERS AS WELL. IN PARTICULAR, EXPERTS WERE CONCERNED WITH POSITIONS WHICH CHINESE AND SOVIETS WOULD TAKE AND FELT THAT PRUDENT COURSE WOULD BE TO SEE HOW THINGS DEVELOP DURING UNGA BEFORE TAKING FIRM POLICY STAND.

4. REGARDING VIETNAM, OVERALL IMPRESSION OF EXPERTS, ACCORDING LENZI, WAS ONE OF PERPLEXITY THAT HANOI DID NOT SEEM IN ANY HURRY FOR RECONSTRUCTION ASSISTANCE FROM EC COUNTRIES. THERE WERE VARIOUS EXPLANATIONS FOR THIS BUT NO HARD AND FAST CONCLUSIONS. FRG REP, REPORTING ON RECENT VISIT OF GERMAN TECHNICAL DELEGATION TO NORTH VIETNAM, SAID BONN HAD IMPRESSION THAT A) HANOI HAD LITTLE UNDERSTANDING OF WESTERN ASSISTANCE PROCEDURES AND TECHNIQUES AND B) THERE WERE STRONG DIFFERENCES ON ASSISTANCE QUESTION BETWEEN VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF HANOI GOVERNMENT. ITALIAN REP LENZI, ON OTHER HAND, SUGGESTED THAT NORTH VIETNAMESE SEEMING RELUCTANCE ON WESTERN AID STEMMED FROM FEAR OF POLITICAL STRINGS. VIEWS OF MOSCOW AND PEKING WERE ALSO THOUGHT TO PLAY A ROLE IN HANOI'S ATTITUDE. UPSHOT WAS THAT EXPERTS FEEL THAT IT IS NOW UP TO HANOI TO MAKE CONCRETE PROPOSALS AND THAT EC COUNTRIES SHOULD NOT PUSH THE MATTER. ALL AGREED ALSO THAT HANOI'S CLEAR PREFERENCE FOR BILATERAL AID MADE IT UNNECESSARY TO UNDERTAKE EXTENSIVE PLANNING FOR MULTILATERAL EC EFFORT.

5. ACCORDING LENZI, LITTLE SIGNIFICANCE EMERGED DURING EXPERTS DISCUSSION OF AFGHAN SITUATION. THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT SPEED WITH WHICH DAUD REGIME RECEIVED RECOGNITION WAS DUE CHIEFLY TO UNIVERSAL DESIRE TO MAINTAIN STABILITY IN AREA. FOR SAME REASON, EXPERTS WERE IN ACCORD THAT STEPS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO ENCOURAGE PAKISTAN TO REMAIN FIRM ON PATHAN ISSUE LEST PAK WEAKNESS WERE TO CREATE UNSETTLING SITUATION. EXPERTS ALSO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ROME 09047 311833Z

NOTED THAT CURRENT REGIME DOES NOT YET SEEM TO HAVE CLEAR IDEA OF ITS GOALS OR WAYS TO ACHIEVE THEM, SUGGESTING THAT DAUD TAKE OVER HAD EARMARKS OF SPUR OF THE MOMENT DECISION.

6. NEXT MEETING OF EC FAR EAST EXPERTS IS SCHEDULED FOR MIN-OCTOBER, ACCORDING TO LENZI. SUBJECT OF SOVIET ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY PLAN, RAISED BY ITALIAN REP, BEING REPORTED SEPTTEL.
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